

UPERIOR TO SORROW

Governor Thomas C. Fletcher P
nishes the Story of His Travels.

**Taken—Mr. Ackanor and the La Ab
Claim—The History of a Mysterious D
appearance.**

by all. He left the cars at Grand avenue, and was driven at once to his house. A reporter called on the Fletcher residence shortly afterwards, and was handed by the Governor the following statement, which is printed just as it was given, and which makes a document almost as remarkable in its way as Gov. Fletcher's disappearance. The story of his meeting with Mr. Acknor, and the details of his adventures subsequently read like a page out of a romance. The last sentence of the gentleman's story is well. He has been bronzed by the Southern sun, and a beard three weeks old adorns his cheeks and cheeks. His statement runs thus:

interested in the war. His La. Aorta came against him. He was a man of the East and had just come in on a train from the East and had been staying over to see me, and on inquiry of a black man if he knew where I lived a black slender told him I had just come into the depot. Some one pointed me out to him. His train was behind time and he had stopped at the depot to get his supper and said to me a letter to me from some one who asked me to come in that day. He said that he never told it to me. He said there were no investigations which were

returning train, and talk to him of the matter. Now it so happened that I had on that day been talking with parties interested in the La Grange claim, and had in my pocket a printed brochure and argument in the case. I consented to go on up to Soto on the up-train from there. Before arriving there he made me such offers to go to San Antonio as seemed to me a sufficient inducement to do so. I wrote with pencil on the paper brochure a note to Mr. B. Reynolds, the matter to be referred to him, and gave him the enclosed some letters to attend to for me. Mr. Reynolds enclosed all the above in one envelope. Mr. Ackers did not furnish me the envelope. We had no stamps, and he took the letter and said he would go for a

to the mail car and get one, and returning, said it had done so, and had given the letter to the mail agent to give to the postman. The postman was not there, and the new mails were got on the morning train. Morgan and I went to Morgan City. Here I got on the steamer and we went on by rail to Galveston to meet me there. Just as the steamer was putting out I ran up to the telegraph office and wrote a dispatch home. The operator was not in, but a man was in the room, and he looked upon me along the deck for the operator, and not seeing him

...the world as it seemed to understand what we were about. I gave him the pay—upwards of one dollar, perhaps a dollar and twenty-five cents—and rather than a scowder, Mr. Acenar sent me at the very moment and we

WENT ON TO POINT ISABEL, and to Brownsville and crossed over to Matamoros. There he found Juan Acenar, who got the right idea. He was a Spaniard, and from Mr. Sutton, the Consul-General, I learned that no preparation, so far as we knew, had been made for taking the testimony. Meanwhile he informed me that the first thing to do was to get a despatch from Corpus Christi that the Senate would adjourn without acting on the treaty. Mr. Acenar spoke Spanish and

we had no money to get down to Bagdad. This
refused to do, as I found the testimony was to help
his case exclusively. I had enough of Mexico. I
had no money exceeding twenty dollars with me
when I left here. He paid all expenses. He gave
me money enough to come home and I started from
Matamoros to Camargo, thence to Rio Grand City.
My money was stolen and I arrived at Rio Grand
City flat broke. I saw the commander at Rio Grand
Hingold, who telegraphed by Quintana Roo
to Stanley. Stanley and Lieut. Burns of
Stanley's staff, Burns promptly telegraphed
for me to draw on him. I did so, and started on

stage at once for Panama, and thence to Laredo, where

I TELEGRAPHED HOME, it being the first place where there was direct telegraph communication. After I had sent the first dispatches home, I saw for the first time a newspaper, and learned that my former communication and dispatches had not been received at home. I was very greatly astonished and grieved that my family and friends

had suffered so much uneasiness on my account, and hastened home as rapidly as possible, and arrived this morning. I am greatly fatigued, and necessarily require today's rest, when I will be ready to greet and thank my friends and go to work.

"What do you think of Mexico?" asked the reporter.

"Cactus, centipedes, tarantulas, rattlesnakes, red pepper, dirt, laziness, blankets but barefooted Indians, hot, dusty, dry, do's, fleas. Oh, I could give you a column or two of observations of this region. John Kundu described the Mexicans as very brief but expressive language: they have not improved since, but grown worse, if possible."

AMONG Our wants, a "House to
Sail"
Will "raise the wind" and never fail.

FISH'S STORY.

**The Trial of the Ex-President of the De-
funct Marine Bank.**

New York, April 8.—The trial of James D. Fish, formerly president of the Marine Bank, was continued to-day. Mr. Fish was again on the stand, and narrated the conversation he had with Gen. Grant in the latter part of May, 1893. Mr. Fish said: "I called at the office of Gen. Grant and Ward one morning to see Mr. Ward. I met Gen. Grant there, and he called my name. He asked me if I

outside the office, and asked him how was the business of the concern. He told me it was first-rate, and said he thought he had made more money during the year than any other house in Wall Street, perhaps in New York City. He said he thought Mr. Ward was the ablest young business man he had ever seen. I asked him, also, if he ever looked at the books, and he told me he did not; he looked over his monthly statement, which was satisfactory to him."

ABOUT TOWN.

J. R. JAYNE, one of the Anchor Line pilots, who has been confined to bed for some time, died at Hot Springs yesterday at 12 o'clock.

Alfred J. Worcester filed a suit for divorce today from his wife Sana E. Worcester whom he married in July, 1864, at Whitehall, Ill., and who deserted him in April, 1883.

Dr. STEWART, State Fish Commissioner, has presented the Merchants' Exchange with several fine German carp. These fish have been placed in the fountain basin along with the bass, croppie and gold and catfish.

In the Criminal court the session was taken up today by the trial of Chas. G. Alvord on an indictment for grand larceny, found on complaint of Charles E. Lewis, a clothing in a factory, in whose employ the defendant was some time before his discharge and the finding of the indictment.

The last lecture of the Sanitary course series will be given to-morrow (Thursday) evening, at the Pickwick, by Rev. John Snyder, under the auspices

of Alpdis Council, Legion of Honor. The show
will be "Amusements." Admission is free, and the
public is invited to attend.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch,
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TERMS OF THE DAILY.
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One month..... .85
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Subscribers who fail to receive their paper regularly will confer a favor upon us by reporting the same to this office by postal card.

THE WEEKLY.
One year, postage paid..... \$1.00
Six months..... .60
All business or news letters or telegrams should be addressed
POST-DISPATCH,
515 and 517 Market street.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1885.

The daily average number of copies of the Post-Dispatch delivered by carriers in the city of St. Louis and suburbs during the week ending Saturday, April 4, was 20,703. This does not include sales to newsboys and dealers, and it does not include our country circulation in more than 400 important cities and towns of the West.

A FULL vote for St. Louis.

We have pulled FLAD through, but HOBBS is a total loss.

SEVERAL would-be delegates are regretting their mistaken votes.

We take back nothing that we have said in favor of Mr. FRANCIS.

NOW that the Collectorship is settled, the question arises, who is to be the new fire chief?

The winners in yesterday's election owe a vote of thanks to a man named GROVER CLEVELAND. He helped them immensely.

Who laid out the gas monopolists? The Post-Dispatch, with its unparalleled circulation among the victims of monopoly, did it.

The vote which FRANCIS cast for CLEVELAND at Chicago was broadcast on the water. It has come back to him without making him wait many days.

One of the pleasures of life is to see one's name in print. This pleasure may be enjoyed by any one who subscribes to the Post-Dispatch's Bartholdi monument fund.

THE St. Louis merchants make their purchases chiefly in New York. There is nothing just at present which will help the reputation of St. Louis with the New Yorkers so much as a first-class lift given to the Bartholdi statue fund.

THE PRINCE LOUISE without her Marquis, and the Duke of Cambridge without his umbrellas, were noted in the royal group that saw WALES and the Princess off at the railway station. But it was the umbrella's absence and not LOUISE's that was noted as remarkable and unexpected.

ST. LOUIS is the greatest of all the cities founded by French pioneers in America and there are many prominent influential French families in this city. We expect them to show their pride in their ancestry by suitable subscriptions for the statue which their kinsmen in the old home have sent to this country.

UNDER the auspices of such Democracy as CLEVELAND's, Michigan seems to be resuming her old place in the Democratic line. The Democratic majority in Detroit yesterday was over 5,000, and the Free Press claims the election of the entire Democratic State ticket, with 20,000 majority for its head, the Democratic candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court, whose Republican competitor, Judge COOLEY, is one of the best and most distinguished jurists in the United States.

CARTER HARRISON is re-elected Mayor of Chicago by a small majority in a total vote of 85,000, a good deal more than twice the vote of St. Louis yesterday. His many successive re-elections as Mayor of a city that before his time invariably went Republican by a large majority, are quite a feather in the cap of a man who has been abused, ridiculed and opposed as he has been by the press of Chicago. It shows that, in spite of peculiarities and shortcomings, really good work in office will not be forgotten or undervalued by the people.

BOTH parties, and the great body of citizens who care more for the public welfare than for either party, are to be congratulated over the recent contest. Both parties nominated exceptionally strong, good men, and made an open, manly, fair fight in the right spirit. Both tickets were pledged to substantially the same policy, and both parties are, in the highest and best sense, winners. The Democrats get the office; the Republicans get rid of FILLEY for good; the city gets both parties committed to an open, stand-up fight against gas monopoly. In short, FILLEY and the old gas monopoly are both buried, as they used to bury suicides, with a stake driven through the body, to show that there is no resurrection for them.

GEN. LAWTON of Georgia says he did not refrain from petitioning Congress for a removal of his disabilities because he was stubborn or unwilling to accept the results of the war, but because he believed his pardon, granted a year before the Fourteenth Amendment was adopted, had restored to him all the rights of a citizen, and that these could not be taken away by subsequent legislation of a retroactive character. Doubtless he is honestly satisfied with his own opinion on the subject, and he has asked Mr. CLEVELAND to act as if the nomination had never been made. But if he is disappointed in the result, it will be the opinion of a shrewd Senate, and not the opinion of Gen.

LAWTON or of Mr. GARLAND, that will decide the question of legal eligibility. It is reasonably certain that the Senate will treat the Fourteenth Amendment as a constitutional definition of political qualifications, and not as a retroactive penal statute. It will be held that it is no more an ex post facto law than any other clause of the Constitution prescribing qualifications for office, and that the pardoning power has no more to do with it than with the clauses disqualifying persons of alien birth. The Constitution as it now stands takes from the President and gives to Congress alone the power to remove the disabilities imposed by that amendment.

THE BARTHOLOI STATUE.

The people of this country owe a debt of courtesy to their good friends in the French Republic.

The French people have taken the trouble to show their kindly feelings by a popular subscription which has paid for one of the colossal monuments of history, the Bartholdi statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World." This gift was the expression of a sentiment as sincere as it was spontaneous. To refuse to show our appreciation of it would be more than a lack of courtesy. It would be a stain on our reputation.

We are called on to furnish the amount needed to pay for the foundation and pedestal on which this colossal statue is to stand. For this purpose something like a hundred thousand dollars is wanted. Our readers are familiar with the story of the various efforts made to raise this amount. It is not worth while to repeat it. It suffices to say that after all our efforts have failed the New York WORLD has boldly undertaken to succeed. In a few weeks it has raised more than \$15,000, and the subscriptions are rapidly increasing.

There is no longer any doubt of the speedy success of the new movement. The pedestal will be provided for the statue. The people of France will be spared the humiliation of having their gift lighted. The people of the United States will be freed from the reproach of sordid indifference to a generous expression of friendship.

But the statue was not given to New York. It was given to the whole country. The duty of providing for it belongs to the whole country. The Post-Dispatch calls upon the liberal and broad-gauge citizens of the West to join in the movement, to make the subscription a popular one, to hasten its completion and to make the reception of the statue an occasion of national pride and of pleasure without alloy.

MAYOR-ELECT FRANCIS.

MR. D. R. FRANCIS is a young, bright and successful man. The chief magistracy of the great city of St. Louis goes to him the same vista of possible promotions that was spread out before GROVER CLEVELAND by an election as Mayor of Buffalo a few years ago. It gives him equal opportunities of earning a national reputation as a man of aggressive integrity, of courageous loyalty and untiring devotion to public duty, of guiding discretion in doing the right thing in the right way and at the right time.

His election is traceable to his conspicuous connection with the nomination of CLEVELAND, and to the growing popularity of the spirit and methods of the new Democratic administration. The Democratic victory yesterday was largely due to the prevailing wish and impression that he would make CLEVELAND's administration in Buffalo, Albany and Washington his model, and give the City of St. Louis another of the same sort. The impression that he would be strengthened by the fact that he was known to be making great personal sacrifices in becoming a candidate, and his willingness to undertake a doubtful contest under such circumstances was accepted as an assurance that the same spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice would continue to animate him throughout his administration, if elected. And now, to become one of the biggest men in Missouri and the entire West he has only to realize these expectations—to show himself as free from demagogic finesse on the one hand or from subservience to corporate or personal interests on the other, as CLEVELAND himself, and as clear, firm and discreet in his office.

The problem of municipal government is, after all, the knottiest one for American statesmanship to solve, and striking success in the municipal affairs of our great cities is becoming more and more a test of high capacity and fitness, a stepping stone to the highest offices of the State and nation. Mr. TILDEN's distinguished labors in riding New York City of Tweedism made him Governor of the Empire State and the candidate of a popular majority for President. The Mayorality of Buffalo made CLEVELAND Governor of New York and President of the United States within four years. Mr. FRANCIS has shown some of the qualities necessary to lift him to the plane of his noble opportunity; if he has them all, and, like CLEVELAND, a man of his own head, a calm, shrewd listener, but well guarded against the interested personal solicitations of friends, supporters and corporations, there is a great future for him in public life.

This Democratic victory in St. Louis yesterday was not only a party victory, but a very creditable and significant one. There was no local bias between the two tickets. That of the Republicans was strong, well chosen, and headed by Mayor Ewing, whose administration had been generally approved as good, and gov-

erned more by regard for the public welfare than by partisan considerations. The election of the entire Democratic ticket, with a single exception, under such circumstances, is simply a visible manifestation of the impression Mr. CLEVELAND's course is making on the public mind in favor of Democratic tendencies and methods. It shows that the current is everywhere setting in favor of the party that has so long labored under a load of partisan obloquy and popular distrust. Mr. CLEVELAND's record, and the moral effect of his election, and of his course since, have cast off that load. If he continues as he began, there is a long period of retirement ahead for the Republican party, and if Mr. FRANCIS shall do as well locally, he will make St. Louis one of the most reliably and creditably Democratic of cities.

With all that can grace old age, with world-wide honor, troops of friends and wife and children all about him, Gen. GRANT faces death with a calm patience that is shaken only by the delay. All the human homage that can flatter or soothe men cannot raise within him a wish for longer life. When told of the multitudes of friends who rejoice over every hopeful bulletin from his bedside, he simply answers: "I have a great many on the other side, too, and I wish they would come." To this at last come the greatest and most successful men, the time when

"He hates him
That would upon the rack of this tough world
Stretch him out longer."

FRANCIS.

From the Post-Dispatch, March 27.
After a long struggle which illustrated the tough and hardy fiber of the St. Louis democracy, the convention found a happy solution of the deadlock in the nomination of Mr. Francis. It was a triumph. This is undoubtedly the strongest nomination they could have made. The three candidates who represented the strength of the convention represented also antagonisms and hostilities that were irreconcilable and insurmountable. The nomination of Mr. Francis represents harmony, union and strength.

His strength lies not only in the harmonizing of all political forces, but also in the personal advantages he embodies. Mr. Francis has the great personal advantage of having the good opinion of all men. He is, it is true, untried in municipal government and untried in politics, but he has become widely and favorably known to the people by an acquaintance which, for so young a man, extends through a long period. He was a public character before he was chosen President of the Merchants' Exchange, and the creditable discharge of this easy and dignified office rendered him available for promotion in politics at any time thereafter. His nomination as a delegate to the Chicago Convention was generally understood as an intimation that whenever his party would need him it would know where to find him, and it has been his good fortune to have his party need him and find him.

We approve of the nomination of Mr. Francis, and await to hear him declare himself on the municipal issues which his nomination represents.

Railroad Commissioners.

From the New York World.
Every intelligent man knows that railroads are the great highways of commerce, and that to destroy or cripple them would be to ruin the business of the country. But every intelligent man also knows that railroads would be much more useful and valuable than they are if they were honestly constructed, honestly managed and did the public business at honest rates. The railroads of the United States have been watered hundreds of millions in a few years. This amount of fraudulent capital stock means just so much increase in the charge for transportation.

Commissioners now ask the passage of a series of new laws, all of which ought to be enacted very closely. One of these gives the Commissioners power to decide whether a road shall be built parallel to an existing road. If they decide it shall not be built, they are empowered to condemn the land and build a new road. This is a dangerous power to trust to the Commission. The argument is that when parallel roads are constructed on lines that have not business enough for two companies both are crippled and the people are not benefited. But an existing road may represent a large amount of fraudulent capital stock, watered to quadruple its legitimate sum. The people on the line are compelled to pay exorbitant rates, and to the growing popularity of the spirit and methods of the new Democratic administration. The Democratic victory yesterday was largely due to the prevailing wish and impression that he would make CLEVELAND's administration in Buffalo, Albany and Washington his model, and give the City of St. Louis another of the same sort. The impression that he would be strengthened by the fact that he was known to be making great personal sacrifices in becoming a candidate, and his willingness to undertake a doubtful contest under such circumstances was accepted as an assurance that the same spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice would continue to animate him throughout his administration, if elected. And now, to become one of the biggest men in Missouri and the entire West he has only to realize these expectations—to show himself as free from demagogic finesse on the one hand or from subservience to corporate or personal interests on the other, as CLEVELAND himself, and as clear, firm and discreet in his office.

MEN OF MARK.

FRANCIS BURNETT received 2,321 telegrams of congratulation on his birthday.

DR. CARROLL is now traveling in Ceylon as a "Duke of Madrid."

EMILY PACHEA, ex-Khedive's daughter, has subscribed \$300 to the Gordon Memorial Fund.

The Francis Scott Key Monument in Baltimore is to consist of a fitted column one hundred feet high, surmounted by a bronze figure of Key.

GEORGE ALFRED TOWNSEND has in press, "President Grant's Last Days in Blank Verse." A very limited edition will be printed.

MR. GLANTZOFF'S Latin translation of "Book of Ages," is included in the programme of the great August Birmingham Festival.

The most promising candidate for the office of Governor in the Territory of New Mexico, Mr. BENJAMIN MARTINEZ, is an accomplished gentleman and a full-blooded Mexican.

DR. PAUL, a North Carolina farmer, found \$200 worth of gravel in the gravel walk in front of his house, and now his gravel bank is said to be a good mine.

COLORADO CLEVELAND, J. H. FARNHAM of Chillicothe, N. C., is six feet eight inches high, weighs 410, and spreads a foot eight inches broad and twenty-two inches long.

WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT'S income is reported at \$1,300 per hour. The New York World wants the millionaire to give one hour of his money to the Bartholdi pedestal fund.

JAMES HUBBARD of New Augusta, Ind., was 100 years old on March 31. Mr. Hubbard was born in 1785, and was a son of the father, John Hubbard, lived to be within a few months of a century old.

The New York Sun takes the Herald to task for quoting Horace Greeley as saying he was a spiritist, but not a "jaded fool." The Sun says Mr. Greeley copies the English language without palliation or snobbery.

MARK TWAIN considers himself with the reflection that the Outlook Philosophers never would have called him "Pippin, irreverent and trashy" had he not been conspicuous in the Connecticut Magazine.

THOMAS JEFFERSON built a small observatory at Charlottesville in 1833. Now on the site of that observatory stands a new \$50,000 observatory, endowed with \$75,000 and with a new 36-inch telescope that cost \$40,000. Of the old observatory, President J. M. McKim says: "It was a failure."

MR. W. M. STEIGER has secured a contract for advertising in the Post-Dispatch. Telephone 533.

and the alumni of the University of Virginia the balance. The observatory will be opened with ceremony on the 15th instant.

THE Due D'Aumale's recent remittance of 5,000 francs to ex-Marshall Bismarck was made in response to the exile's piteous appeal for assistance from the horrors of the absolute poverty and want from which, he said in his letter, he was actually suffering.

A COUPLE at Bridgeport, Conn., are to be married at the skating rink next Thursday night. The bride and groom, the preacher, the bridesmaids, and all the guests will be on rollers. A dance on rollers follows the ceremony.

W. O. HOWE deserted from the Confederate army at the battle of Gettysburg, and has since been mourned as dead. Last Friday he returned to his home in Toombsboro, Ga., and surprised his wife, who thought he was a ghost.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

MR. CLEVELAND is said to be surprised at the easy nature of his essentially executive duties.

THERE was an increase in the prohibition vote at the recent Rhode Island election.

THE Milwaukee Sentinel (Republican) cautiously says: "If Mr. Cleveland is not very careful he will make a good President."

IT is historical that Hayes wanted Gen. Joe Johnston in his Cabinet, but finally came to the conclusion that David M. Key of Tennessee would better represent the real "Rebel" element.

A DAKOTA editor upsets the argument of the woman suffragists by demanding to know what they will do in case of a war. They are all loved to vote. Let Lilly Doremus Blake stand up and answer.

"WHATEVER a few political wire-workers may say to the contrary," says the Charleston (S. C.) News (Democrat), "the Democratic masses would have been mortified to see the party's promise of divorce reform scattered to the winds by the removal of Mr. Pearson, simply to make room for a Democrat."

R. W. CANNON, the most conspicuous colored clergyman in Texas, and regarded as one of the foremost of his race in influence and education, has published a card inviting negroes to leave the Republican party and, as he pathetically puts it, "come over to the Lord's side."

WOMEN OF THE WORLD.

THE Empress Eugenie's memoirs in book form are to be issued this week.

MRS. PAMELA of Chaffinch, Minn., has reached her 100th year.

THE Hon. Mrs. Mary Grady of Hartford, Conn., left \$20,000 to Carleton College, Minnesota.

A NEW HAMPSHIRE court has been called upon to decide whether a woman may marry her deceased husband's father.

A MISS ELLA CHASE says there will be three women to one man in Heaven. She is evidently fixing up a heaven for mortals. It is not understood how the carrying out of the gift is to be accomplished.

QUEEN VICTORIA says she will give a farm to each of the two Joyce boys, who escaped killing at Mauthausen, Ireland, and, of course, the Joyce boys rejoice, though they must wait till they get their majority before they get the farm. Meanwhile they are content with copies of "More Leaves From the Highlands."

THE members of the Holy Family at Bethlehem have no Easter cards. They were sent to the stable in the rear of the inn for a night's lodging. Things have progressed. Religion has become mixed up with politics, and the carrying out of the gift is knelt and pray in a small church without a snow-bonnet on Easter morning.

THE METROPOLITAN PRESS.

What the Editors of the New York Journals are Saying Today.

By Telegram to the Post-Dispatch.

New York, April 8.—The World says in its editorial of today: "The Western elections yesterday and the result of the contest have been watered hundreds of millions in a few years. This amount of fraudulent capital stock means just so much increase in the charge for transportation."

Commissioners now ask the passage of a series of new laws, all of which ought to be enacted very closely. One of these gives the Commissioners power to decide whether a road shall be built parallel to an existing road. If they decide it shall not be built, they are empowered to condemn the land and build a new road. This is a dangerous power to trust to the Commission. The argument is that when parallel roads are constructed on lines that have not business enough for two companies both are crippled and the people are not benefited. But an existing road may represent a large amount of fraudulent capital stock, watered to quadruple its legitimate sum. The people on the line are compelled to pay exorbitant rates, and to the growing popularity of the spirit and methods of the new Democratic administration. The Democratic victory yesterday was largely due to the prevailing wish and impression that he would make CLEVELAND's administration in Buffalo, Albany and Washington his model, and give the City of St. Louis another of the same sort. The impression that he would be strengthened by the fact that he was known to be making great personal sacrifices in becoming a candidate, and his willingness to undertake a doubtful contest under such circumstances was accepted as an assurance that the same spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice would continue to animate him throughout his administration, if elected. And now, to become one of the biggest men in Missouri and the entire West he has only to realize these expectations—to show himself as free from demagogic finesse on the one hand or from subservience to corporate or personal interests on the other, as CLEVELAND himself, and as clear, firm and discreet in his office.

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